Welcome back to what promises to be a fantastic year in the life of St Paul's College.

**Pastoral Theme**

Our theme this year centres around Care for Each Other. In previous years, we have focused on Academic themes or, indeed, themes around our historical context – our Charisms. In today’s society, a clear and disappointing aspect of our times is the apparent lack of care and respect for self and others. This will not change unless we change it. Throughout the year, we will focus on activities that promote care and respect for others and indeed for ourselves.

This year, we have also added a new position to the College – The Leader of Welfare and Pastoral Care. Mrs Belinda Mainey will take up this role and will focus very strongly on the theme and opportunities to engage in a meaningful way.

**Annual Plan and Whole School Focus**

Our College website now contains details of our annual plan and whole school focus for 2017. These come directly from our Strategic Management Plan and from data derived from our results in state and national testing. Full details can be found at [http://moodle.kmpslism.catholic.edu.au/](http://moodle.kmpslism.catholic.edu.au/) under the ‘About Us’ tab.

In summary, though, we plan to address the following:

- Our strong Catholic identity
- Strengthening our resources
- Setting high expectations for teaching and learning
- Promoting a safe, happy and healthy community
- Setting in place routines for staff and students
- Strong focus on literacy and writing, including a specialised and targeted writing program for selected students in Years 7 and 8.
- Understanding the importance of focused and directed homework
- Self-efficacy and self-understanding in goal setting.

**Financial Support for Families in Need**

Over the holidays, I read with interest a media release from Mrs Melinda Pavey about financial support that is now available for families experiencing financial stress due to certain circumstances. You are eligible to apply if you satisfy the following criteria:

- Living in social housing (which includes public, community or Aboriginal housing), on the NSW Housing Register, receiving FACS private rental assistance, living in crisis/supported accommodation, or living in out-of-home care.
- Studying in Year 10, 11 or 12 at a NSW high school or TAFE, completing a school based apprenticeship or traineeship, or studying a VET subject at school in 2017.
- An Australian citizen or permanent resident.
- Not earning an income higher than the NSW social housing eligibility limits (if earning an income). If you have previously been awarded a Youth Scholarship, you can still apply for the 2017 academic year.

Applications close February 24, 2017.

**Welcome to New Staff**

This year the College welcomes 15 new staff members in a variety of teaching and support roles.

**Welcome To**

- Mr Anthony Mackney: teaching Industrial Technology and Junior Science
- Mrs Belinda Allman: teaching Agriculture, Primary Industries and Junior Science
- Mr William Pollock: teaching Legal Studies, Geography and Catholic Studies and Studies of Religion
- Mr Dominic MacAndrews: teaching Mathematics, Catholic Studies and Physics
- Mrs Tess Meehan: teaching Junior History and Geography
- Mr Simeon James: teaching Hospitality and Food Technology with Laura von Holdt
**SCHOOL UNIFORM STOCKISTS** -
- **The College Canteen** – Open before school and between recess and lunch for the sale of College sports uniform, jackets and hats. Phone: (02) 65627200
- **The Uniform Company** – The sole provider of all regular uniform items (with the exception of sports uniform, jackets and hats). All regular uniform items must be purchased via on-line ordering only. Email: orders@williamson.com.au, Web: https://shop-williamson.com.au/catalogue, Tel: (07) 3267 2388

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regular Uniform Items</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior girls blouse (Yr 11-12)</td>
<td>Senior boys shirt (Yr 11-12)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior girls blouse (Yr 10-11)</td>
<td>Junior boys shirts (Yr 10-11)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls skirt (Yr 7-12)</td>
<td>Boys tailored shorts (Yr 7-12)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Girls slacks (Yr 7-12)</td>
<td>Boys tailored trousers (Yr 7-12)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls shorts (Yr 7-12)</td>
<td>Senior boys tie (Yr 11-12)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior girls tie (Yr 11-12)</td>
<td>Socks (Yr 7-12)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jumper (Yr 7-12)</td>
<td>Jumper (Yr 7-12)</td>
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</tbody>
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**Note:**
- Boys tailored trousers and shorts must be worn with a plain black belt.
- When wearing plain black stockings with the skirt, socks are not to be worn.
- Year 7-12 Boys are to wear their shirts out.
- Year 11-12 are to have their shirts tucked in only when wearing their ties in terms 2 & 3.
- Girls skirts and shorts must come to the top of the knee when standing upright.

**Regular Uniform Shoes**
Polishable, black leather, small-heel, solid leather upper, face-up, solid sole. Note: Shoes with exposed uppers or buckles are not allowed.

**Sport Shoes**
Joggers with a flat sole, good grip and rolled toe. Note: skate shoes, basketball boots, canvas shoes, velcro or similar are not allowed.

**CANTEEN ROSTER**

**13 February**
- Mon Leonor Druhan
- Tue Maureen Wolff, Monique Aladajdian
- Wed Rani Nagra, Sharon Cole
- Thur Sue Young
- Fri Lisa Collins

**20 February**
- Mon Lisa Nemme
- Tue Maureen Wolff, Karen Hodges
- Wed Rani Nagra, Wendy Ramsay
- Thur Sue Young
- Fri Dianne Whalen

**BAKING ROSTER**

**13 February**
- Mon Jennifer Bird
- Tue Amber Steger
- Wed Penelope Georgas
- Thur Karina Daniels
- Fri Julie Dyson

**20 February**
- Mon Natalie Chadwick
- Tue Naomi Keast
- Wed
- Thur Git Sadler
- Fri Tracey Swan
We believe this will be a far more accurate way of determining the progress of each child at a time when the curriculum for that unit, topic etc has concluded. So students in these years will continue to sit strictly controlled exams, tests and other assessments, but not in a long time frame. It will be extended over a longer period of time and will ensure that it occurs at a time when the curriculum for that unit, topic etc has concluded.

We believe this will be a far more accurate way of determining the progress of each child and will allow for more precise reporting to parents when the time arises.

HSC analysis and ATARs  I was thrilled with our results in 2016. These reflected the dedication of our wonderful teaching staff and the hard work put in by our Year 12 students. The work does not end there though. As an old boss of mine said – if you are not going forwards, you are going backwards because others will continue to pass you by. We will keep looking for ways to improve our teaching and learning processes.

Our results included:

- Overall the College achieved twenty three Band 6 results and eighty eight Band 5 results making it one of the most successful groups in recent years. This equates to over 20% of all results in the top 2 bands. Last year it was 12% and the previous year 5%.
- The College have four students who achieved an ATAR of over 90 and an additional eleven students with ATARs over 80.
- Jai Thompson achieved an ATAR of 97.45 and is the DUX of St Paul’s College for 2016. Tilly Shepherd was listed as a HSC All-Rounder.
- Of the sixty-eight students who sat for the HSC exams, thirty-seven were offered early entry to universities such as Southern Cross, Charles Sturt and University of New England, whilst many others will be successful on the back of their HSC scores and ATARs.
- VET was also very successful with Cooper Nugent picking up an apprenticeship at an exclusive Sydney restaurant. 4-Forteen, with Colin Fassinage in Surry Hills.
- And VET subjects continue to contribute strongly to the wonderful ATARS achieved this year.

Demos, Displays And Performances Of Major Works  Bravissimo – Evronia Allen in Port Macquarie, 15 February.

Top ATAR - Jai Thompson – 97.45. Others included

- Tilly Shepherd – 96.95
- Nicholas Garrett – 95.6
- Zoe Yarwood – 93.25
- Caitlin Ward – 89.9

Exams for Students in Years 7-9  One of the things that you will see disappear out of our conversation is the ‘Exam Period’ at the half yearly point of the year for students in Years 7 to 9. This DOES NOT mean exams disappear for those students. Indeed it may mean the opposite. What it does mean however, is that a week long block of exams during the half-yearly period will no longer exist. Instead of trying to fit curriculum and assessment into an artificially created block, we have decided to continue to assess but at a time when it is appropriate, not when a calendar dictates.

So students in these years will continue to sit strictly controlled exams, tests and other assessments, but not in a short week-long time frame. It will be extended over a longer period of time and will ensure that it occurs at a time when the curriculum for that unit, topic etc has concluded.

We believe this will be a far more accurate way of determining the progress of each child and will allow for more precise reporting to parents when the time arises.

Of course, an end-of-year exam block will remain in place. Modification of the half yearly is the only change to occur which will also allow for a greater range of tasks to be used to ensure all aspects of your child’s learning can be assessed accurately.

Music Tuition – A New Arrangement  Mrs Leonie Capararo joins us on staff this year two days per week offering music tuition during school hours. In previous years, this arrangement was strictly between Mrs Capararo and the families. However, I feel very strongly about the role music plays in the lives and development of young people, and so, this year, we welcome Leonie to undertake this role. Students who wish to take advantage of this offer are asked to discuss this with their parents and arrange with Mrs Capararo directly. There will be a nominal fee...
of just $5 to cover instrument replacement and repairs. Mrs Capararo will offer places in the College Band, individual instrumental tuition, choir, AMEB practical and theory exams, Eistedfod work, and so on.

The plan is that this will make music tuition much more affordable and accessible for all families and that the music department will grow significantly as part of this arrangement. If you have any questions about this, please direct them to Mrs Beth McMillan or Mrs Leonie Capararo directly.

**Manners, Cyber Bullying And Being A Good Citizen** This year I have made a commitment to staff and students to revisit and reinforce the basics. Students will get used to seeing this sign around the school and me giving constant reminders about standards. I firmly believe that civil society starts with good manners and this will be a focus (among many other things) throughout the year.

We are setting and enforcing standards with regards to:

- Quality of work – nothing but your best
- Uniform – dress as if you are proud to wear the uniform
- Rubbish – keep the school clean – be proud of the new facilities that you have
- Completion of homework – take responsibility for your own education – NO EXCUSES
- Relationships – we say NO to bullying
- Make St Paul's a place of welcome

This is St Paul’s and we are proud to be here.

God Bless

Mr Kevin Lewis – Principal
klewis@lism.catholic.edu.au

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**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE**

Again, I am honoured to support Mr Lewis, the staff and students in the role of Assistant Principal in 2017. I spoke to the whole College community at our first assembly last week about looking forward to a year full of learning, opportunities and academic growth. It is our belief that in order to educate our students it takes a community with a strong desire to achieve. Our teachers are committed to the personal success of all of our students, and we all recognise the important role of parents in being the prime educators of their children. I invite you to be involved in your child’s education and stay in contact with your child’s teachers throughout the year through the student diary, semester reports, Parent/Teacher Information evenings, phone calls and interviews. Staff email addresses are now on our web site for easy contact. They can be found under ‘Parents’, then click on ‘Staff Information’ then ‘Staff Emails’. Please feel free to contact our staff with any concerns, questions or information.

At St Paul’s, we focus on Gospel values and personal excellence in a safe and supportive environment. Our staff strives for academic excellence but also recognises the importance of focusing on each child’s individual faith and academic development. We encourage all our students to be significant contributors to their learning as well as to the College. The classrooms are safe, creative, and engaging places where students can feel empowered to take risks and make positive choices.

The College has embedded Sustained Silent Reading (SSR) within the Pastoral Care morning routine. The ‘late bell’, rings five minutes after the conclusion of both recess and lunch, and indicates when all students should be either in class or line up outside the classroom, ready for learning. All students have been reminded of this and the consequences of being late to class.

**College Uniform** The majority of the students wear the College and sports uniforms with pride, and with the introduction of the new regular uniform this year, I ask your support in the following matters. The new regular College uniform and accessories are outlined on pages 107-108 of the Student Diary for students in Years 7-10. Please note that the Senior student Diary does not contain information on the new uniform, as this was not finalised at the time of printing (please refer to Page 2) These may seem to be minor issues but they do contribute to the standards that we strive to achieve here at St Paul’s. I thank you for your support in these matters:

- Girls wearing the older style skirt and dress - no more than 10 cm above the knee when kneeling.
- Boys wearing the older style shirts - tucked in
- Only the correct jewellery is to be worn
- Shoes cleaned and polished
- Hair neat and tidy
- Boys should be cleanly shaved, and no make-up of any description is permitted for Years 7-10.
- **Reminder about the expectations of facial piercings:**
  No visible facial or body piercing is permitted. Up to two small plain studs or plain sleepers only are allowed in each ear. *(Students arriving to school with new piercings or with current piercings covered with tape will be asked to remove both.)*

Williamson International (The Uniform Company) will be the sole supplier of our new regular College Uniform. This can only be purchased online directly to Williamson International with credit card facility for payment (Visa and MasterCard only). Order at https://shop-williamson.com.au/ (more information is on the College Web Site home page). Sample sets of each item and size are available here at school as try-on samples to determine the correct size prior to placing on-line orders. **Returns And Exchanged** goods must be returned in their original packaging and the cost of return postage in both directions is the responsibility of the buyer.

**Student Diary** One of the most important organisational tools that students have at their disposal is the College Diary. Students need to learn the skill of using the diary for writing down homework, assessments and other reminders. The other important function that the diary plays is that it is a quick and effective method of communication between students, parents and teachers. The diary is also a reference point for information about College policies. All students have a diary, and we expect that they use it correctly. This includes parents sighting and signing it for each student in Years 7 to 10 each week, checking for any teacher correspondences, and that homework is being listed and completed. All diaries will be checked during Pastoral Care each Monday.

**Picking Up Students** A reminder to all parents that student drop-off in the mornings and pick-up at the conclusion of school is to occur from Sea Street. All buses for both drop-off and pick-up use the North Street entrance, therefore, to minimise congestion and for safety reasons, we ask that parents do not wait for children at this location. Sea Street has a designated school drop-off/pick-up zone outside the top gate, so again for safety reasons, we ask that this zone is utilised, **not the driveway.**

**Bullying** is not only unacceptable here at school, but is also unacceptable in society. At St Paul’s, we treat bullying very seriously. All students have been made aware of a google form called ‘Being Bullied’, which I outlined on Monday. Students being bullied and those who know of bullying are asked to complete this form. We cannot deal with the problem of bullying unless we are aware of it. Of course, just informing a teacher, Pastoral Co-ordinator or myself is also fine, however, we appreciate that some students might feel unable to this in a face-to-face manner. Thank you for your support in this matter.

**College Suspension Policy** Students who are placed on either an internal or external suspension will be placed on a monitoring card. While on these cards, no school representation or extra-curricular activities will be allowed (this does not include assessable items or activities). This will be at the discretion of the Assistant Principal in consultation with the Principal and the Pastoral Co-ordinator.

On their first day back this term, all students were asked to mark into their diaries the major examination blocks this year. These can also be found on the live College calendar. Please note, the HSC Trial Exams are tentative dates only, and will not be published until later in 2017.

**Examination/Assessment And Staff Professional Learning Dates For 2017:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Year 12 Mid-Course Exams: 27 March – 31 March</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Year 11 Mid-Course Exam Week: 22 – 26 May</td>
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<td>Year 10 Assessment Week: 29 May – 2 June</td>
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<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Year 12 HSC Trial Exams (Tentative dates TBC): 31 July – 17 August</td>
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<td>Year 11 Preliminary Exams: 11 – 15 September</td>
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<td>Term 4</td>
<td>Year 12 HSC Exams: 16 October – 10 November (conclude no later than this date)</td>
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<td>Year 7-9 Exams: 24 November – 30 November</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 10 Exams: 24 November – 28 November</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 11 Assessments: 24 November – 30 November</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Staff Professional Learning Days for 2017:**

Friday, 7 April (Term 1) – Parish School Staff Retreat.
Monday, 24 April (Term 2) – Catholic Pedagogy Staff Professional Learning.

**Note:** Students return on 26 April.
Monday, 17 July (Term 3) – Staff Professional Learning day.
Friday, 22 September (Term 3) – Staff Professional Learning Day.

**Note:** Term 4 will conclude for students on Friday, 15 December 2017.
Monday, 18 and Tuesday, 19 December will be Staff Professional Learning Days.
Absenteism  This year, parents will again be notified of student absences by an automated text message. If an acceptable reason is received on the same day as the absence, then this reply will be recorded. Notes explaining an absence are also acceptable if received within seven days of the absence, after which an unexplained absence will be recorded which cannot be altered. Text responses such as ‘yes’ or ‘I am aware’ for example, which do not explain the absence, will not be deemed as an acceptable explanation for the absence and will require a phone call or note in order for an explained absence to be recorded. Once again, I thank you for your support in this.

Students Being Late To School Without Explanation  It is very important that students arrive to school on time. The school day begins at 8.55 am. Students who arrive late without a parental explanation will have the following consequences:

- **1st time** – Pastoral Co-ordinator records late event.
- **2nd time** – Pastoral Co-ordinator informs student that there is a pattern.
- **3rd time** – There is a pattern of lateness and the Pastoral Co-ordinator phones parents/guardians to discuss concerns and outline the consequences of any future occurrences.
- **4th time and ongoing** – A lunch time detention is issued by the Pastoral Co-ordinator, the length which comprises the school time that the student has missed (calculated from 8:55 am).

I look forward to supporting the teachers, staff, students, parents and community of St Paul’s College again this year and am confident that it will be a successful one.

**Mr Guy Campbell** – Assistant Principal

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**REC MINISTRY**

**Induction Mass 2017** was held at the All Saints Church in Kempsey at 11 am, yesterday. During Mass, Father Paul Gooley blessed the badges as they were presented to our School Captains, Ministry Leaders, House Captains and School Council Representatives. Parents and friends also attended to help celebrate the beginning of the school year and to formally induct our school leaders.

**Brainstorm Productions**  Brainstorm are an innovative, award-winning theatre company that presents students with contemporary issues in a way that encourages and provides support for the discussion of sensitive issues including self-image, cyber bullying/safety and relationships. Brainstorm will present ‘Wired’ to Years 10 and 11 and ‘Cyberia’ to Years 7-9, both on Thursday, 16 February in the Edmund Rice Hall. There is no charge on the day as this is incorporated in the students’ RE Subject Levy.

**Year 7 Belonging Day**  The Year 7 Belonging Day will be on Wednesday, 22 February at Crescent Head Surf Club. Notes will be sent home to parents soon. The theme is building a sense of community. Students will share ideas and spend time playing getting-to-know-you games, as many of them are from different primary schools this year.

**Year 12 and Year 10 Retreats**  Some advance notice to parents about these major retreats so that you can budget for them. Please note that these dates are recorded in the College calendar that can be accessed, if you follow the links, on the St Paul’s College Moodle page. The cost of the Year12 Retreat will be $195 (three days) and the Year 10 Retreat will be $130 (two days). The retreats are compulsory for all Year 10 and Year 12 students. The Year 12 Retreat is at the end of Term 1, on April 4 – 6. The Year 10 Retreat is at the beginning of Term 3, on August 8 – 9.

**Vinnies Bin**  A reminder that a Vinnies bin is located within the College grounds, next to the car park, near the Science Labs and Small Animal Farm. Parents and students are encouraged to use this bin and help support our local Saint Vincent de Paul Society.

**Mr Conrad Tamblyn** – Leader of Evangelisation

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**LIBRARY MATTERS**

Welcome back to a new year and congratulations to everyone for the wonderful way in which you collected your textbooks recently. Over 2000 items were distributed to over 500 students. Once again, **Mrs Cathy Whalen** and **Mrs Patrice Martin** helped enormously in making it a very smooth process.

**Overdue books** continue to trickle in, and we’re very grateful for that. Thousands of dollars’ worth of resources have been recovered this way, and everyone is to thank for placing the necessary importance on such an undertaking. Keep looking, because the next edition of “serious” letters will be going out shortly. And **House Points** will be awarded to those with the best records.

It’s wonderful to see so many people using the Library before and after school, as well as at recess and lunch. It is a vibrant, friendly place where students, along with their books, magazines, iPads, texts and board games are
making excellent use of this facility. Just a reminder, though, about our iPad rules:

- No volume
- No social media or capturing images
- No interaction between users or devices
- No distracting those working, studying or reading actual books (like in the old days).

Just a reminder about our **hours of operation**...we are generally open from **8.15 to 4.30** Monday to Friday. And if that’s not an option for some reason, Student Services, across the hall, can usually look after your needs, especially on Wednesday afternoons.

Our Year 7 classes will be having their **Orientation Lessons** soon. Hopefully any questions they might have will be answered but, in the meantime, they only have to ask.

Don’t forget, everyone, you can access the **Library Home Page** via the link on the left hand side of the College Moodle page. There are plenty of helpful links there, just waiting for you to explore. This includes our Overdrive eBook site and the **Premier’s Reading Challenge**, which will be launched quite soon now for students in Years 7, 8 and 9.

Finally, thanks to Rhys Gleeson (Year 8) and Ryan Delaforce, Madalynne Farah-Halls and Flynn Keast (Year 10) who have volunteered to be **Library Monitors** this year. Their assistance and involvement is very much appreciated. Anyone else interested in helping out just needs to make that known.

**Happy Reading!**

Mr Peter Garty – Teacher/Librarian 😊

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**SPORT NEWS**

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone to St Paul’s for 2017. This year is shaping up to be a very busy year for sport, with a variety of opportunities already arising for our students.

We would like to congratulate the following students on being elected House Captains and Vice Captains for 2017. We look forward to working with them to promote participation and house spirit.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Edmund</th>
<th>Captains</th>
<th>Vice Captains</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will Smith, Chelsea Thomas</td>
<td>Jessica Grant, Zac Ward</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mackillop</th>
<th>Captains</th>
<th>Vice Captains</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Harry Mainey, Claire Robinson</td>
<td>Heath Lancaster, Siobhan Musgrave</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Farrelly</th>
<th>Captains</th>
<th>Vice Captains</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hugh McGoldrick, Chloe Saunders and Rilee O’Loughlin</td>
<td>Hugh Shannon, Darcy O’Loughlin</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>McAuley</th>
<th>Captains</th>
<th>Vice Captains</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Austyn Nugent, Tayla Haigh</td>
<td>Damien Owens, Tayla Maybon</td>
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**Swimming** This week our long course swimming carnival was held over two mornings with many competitive swimmers showing their true potential. We would like to apologise for the short notice and confusion over our long course carnival. For our past and new families, we normally run this carnival during the school day but due to situations out of our control, this was not feasible this year and therefore had to run it before school. In the future, we will endeavour to provide more information and ensure there is no confusion.

This coming Tuesday, 14 February, we will hold our annual College swimming carnival. This is one of the most enjoyable days of the school calendar and we encourage as many parents and guardians as possible to come and support their children. For more information, please see the note included in this newsletter and the link can also be found on a school website.

**AFL** With the AFL to kick off next week, members of the Sydney Swans squad took time out to visit the Macleay region and St Paul’s College on Tuesday, 7 February. Students were able to meet the players, ask questions and learn about their gruelling pre-season, before heading out for a quick kicking clinic. Despite the heat, the students showed plenty of enthusiasm and developing skills. Thank you to Mr Crowley for organising the visit.

**Cricket** At the end of last year our U15’s Berg Shield Cricket team played St John’s Woodlawn in the quarter finals of the state wide competition. Our boys won the toss and sent Woodlawn in to bat. They bowled well before drinks, but were not able to continue their good form afterwards. Our chase was 164. Like our bowling, we started well batting, but were no match for Woodlawn, being all out for 85. The entire College community would like to congratulate the boys and Coach Taylor in making the top eight of the state. Well done boys.

Continuing on cricket, at the end of last year, Kaine Parkinson played for the U15’s NSWCCC at the NSW All Schools Championship in Hawkesbury. Although weather was not in the boys favour Kaine enjoyed his experience and learnt a lot. Congratulations Kaine on making it that far.
**Diocesan Winter Trials** Any students wishing to nominate for Open Girls or Boys Lismore Diocesan Football team, as well as U15’s and Opens Diocesan Rugby League Team need to nominate by *Thursday, 16 February*. Students and parents need to nominate via the sport.lism.catholic.edu.au website. If you are having trouble, or do not know how, please contact me at the College, or email me at dilawrence@lism.catholic.edu.au for a step-by-step guide.

**Triathlon** Any student wishing to compete at the NSW All Schools Triathlon need to register at the CSSS website by *Wednesday, 15 February*. Please contact me if you need any information in regards to registering.

**Coming Events**
- College Swimming Carnival – 14 February
- Diocesan Swimming – Lismore – 2 March

We look forward to much enjoyment and many successes in the sporting year ahead and if you have any questions or queries about sport please don’t hesitate to contact us at the College or email us at dilawrence@lism.catholic.edu.au or sjedwards@lism.catholic.edu.au.

**Miss Dianne Lawrence and Mr Scott Edwards – Sports Co-ordinators**
2 February 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

The St Paul’s College Swimming Carnival will be held on Tuesday, 14 February 2017. As this is a normal College day, all students are expected to attend and participate fully in the carnival in order to gain points for their Houses. All students are required to arrive at St Paul’s College in the morning where the roll will be taken and students will assemble onto the buses. No students, including senior students, are to meet at the pool, with the exception of those who have pre-registered to compete in the 400m freestyle. Students will be transported to Kempsey McElhone Swimming Complex - Belgrave Street Kempsey, by Cavanagh’s Bus Company. All students will return to St Paul’s College, and will not be allowed to leave from the swimming pool even if a note is presented. If it is necessary for a student to leave the pool early, we require parents/carers to pick up the student from the Swimming Complex after informing the appropriate Pastoral Care Group (PC) Co-ordinator or Pastoral Co-ordinator.

Students from Years 7 – 11 are allowed to attend school dressed in their House colours, (see below for appropriate dress), with Year 12 students only, allowed to attend dressed as novelty characters.

We would like to highlight to parents and students our College policy for appropriate dress to the swimming carnival.

All clothing worn to school the day of the swimming carnival must be appropriate. If a student arrives at school the day of the swimming carnival, in clothing deemed to be inappropriate, parents may be contacted and asked to collect the students in order to rectify the matter, or students will remain at school completing academic work. It is inappropriate for brief and revealing clothing to be worn to school. This includes low-cut, strapless, backless or mid-riff tops, mini-skirts and brief shorts. Parents are also asked to consider the appropriateness of all writing and graphics on T-shirts.

Furthermore, we would also like to highlight to students our College policy for appropriate swimwear, ‘female students are not, under any circumstances, to wear string bikinis or the type of bikini’s used for sunbaking. Sporting bikinis will be allowed as in the type used in surf carnivals.’

If we have to postpone due to bad weather an announcement will be made over the radio on MMM, Star FM and posted on the College website and Facebook page. Due to time constraints the carnival will only be called off due to very adverse weather so a spray jacket will be a good idea on the day.

The cost of the day will be $6, (comprising $2 bus fare and $4 entry to the pool). This money is to be paid on the day as the students board the bus and enter the pool, correct change would be appreciated. Students may also wish to bring money to use the canteen facilities at the pool.

We encourage as many parents as possible to come along and help with time-keeping or just support your children on the day. If you are able to help could you please contact us at the College or via email at dilawrence@lism.catholic.edu.au or sjedwards@lism.catholic.edu.au

Yours Sincerely,

Miss Di Lawrence
Sports Co-ordinator

Mr Scott Edwards
Sport Coordinator

Mr Kevin Lewis
College Principal

Pursuing excellence every day
Family and Community Services

High School Scholarships 2017 – Information for applicants

FACS is offering High School Scholarships to help students enrolled in education or training to complete their studies. Successful applicants will receive $1,000 to help with school expenses.

How much is the scholarship?
Each scholarship for the 2017 academic year is $1,000 (GST exempt). You can apply again each year as you complete your studies.

Who can apply for a scholarship?
You are eligible to apply if you are:
- living in social housing (which includes public, community or Aboriginal housing), on the NSW Housing Register, receiving FACS private rental assistance, living in crisis/supported accommodation, or living in out-of-home care
- studying in Year 10, 11 or 12 at a NSW high school or TAFE, completing a school based apprenticeship or traineeship, or studying a VET subject at school in 2017
- an Australian citizen or permanent resident
- not earning an income higher than the NSW social housing eligibility limits (if earning an income).

If you have previously been awarded a Youth Scholarship, you can still apply for the 2017 academic year.

When can I apply for a scholarship?
Applications open at 9am on 16 January 2017 and close at 7pm on Friday 24 February 2017. We cannot accept late applications.

How can I apply for a scholarship?
It’s easy to apply online. You just need a valid email address so we can keep you updated about your application.

To apply, you should:
1. Visit our online form to set up an account and create a password.
2. Complete the eligibility questions and all relevant sections of the form.
3. Add the email addresses of two people who know about your circumstances and can act as referees for you. This could be your teacher, careers advisor, year advisor, welfare teacher, doctor, counsellor,

social worker, or someone else from your community or religious group. It should not be a family member.

4. List the email address of a staff member from your school or TAFE who can tell us about what you’re studying and release your scholarship money to you if you are successful.

5. Make sure you complete the declaration and electronically sign the form. You should ask a parent or guardian to do this for you if you are under 18 years old.

You can also choose someone to help you fill in your application. To do this you will need to provide this person’s email address and choose the level of access you would like to give them.

How will I know if I’m successful?
We will send all applicants (and anyone that assists you to complete an application) an email once we receive an application. We will send another email to all applicants and their schools in May 2017 advising of the outcome of your application.

What can I use the scholarship for?
If your application is successful, you can use your scholarship for educational expenses like textbooks and course fees, or to help pay for practical supports like medical needs, child care and internet. You will be able to keep anything you buy with the scholarship.

What can’t I use the scholarship for?
You can’t use your scholarship to pay for items provided through other financial assistance programs offered by your school or TAFE.

How will I receive my scholarship funds?
FACS will pay the scholarship directly to your school or TAFE, which will help you to decide how to spend the scholarship money and give it to you. Each school or TAFE might have its own process for how it will pay you, which they will explain to you.

How will you assess my application?
A panel made up of staff from FACS and other organisations like Aboriginal housing providers, community housing providers and NSW Education will assess applications against criteria. Decisions made by the panel are final and cannot be appealed.

Where can I find out more?
Email: youthscholarships@facs.nsw.gov.au
Phone: 02 8753 8673
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Main Street
Crescent Head 2440
Phone (02) 6566 0550

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